"Gail Buhr" gailbuhr@hotmail.com
To: richard.karney@ee.doe.gov

cc: wallys@skyenet.net

Subject: "Energy Star" rating for water heaters $05/16/2003 \ 11:17 \ AM$

U.S. Department of Energy
Mr. Richard Karney

In Re: Resistance electric water heaters

Resistance-type water heaters are the only practical choice for rural residential customers.

If the Energy Star Program includes electric resistance water heaters, it would help rural customers made a good efficiency choice.

The electric heat pump technology does not provide the reliability at a reasonable cost that consumers expect from their water heater.

Sincerely,

Wallace E. Summerville CEO / General Manager

Marshall County REMC P.O. Box 250 Plymouth, IN 46563-0250

574/936-3161, fax 574/935-4162, e-mail: wallys@skyenet.net